

Message Text

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ORIGIN ACDA-12

INFO OCT-01 IO-13 ISO-00 PM-05 AF-10 ARA-11 EA-10
EUR-12 NEA-10 SOE-02 CIAE-00 DODE-00 H-01 INR-10
L-03 NASA-01 NSAE-00 NSC-05 OIC-02 SP-02 PA-01
DOE-15 SAS-02 CEQ-01 OES-09 SS-15 ICA-11 /164 R

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-----083290 120243Z /75

P 112125Z SEP 78
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO USMISSION USUN NEW YORK PRIORITY
USMISSION GENEVA PRIORITY

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 229859

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PARM, CCD, PORG, UNGA

SUBJECT: FIRST SUBSTANTIVE UN DISARMAMENT COMMISSION (UNDC)
AND COMMITTEE ON DISARMAMENT (CD) MEETINGS

REFS: GENEVA 13410

1. WE AGREE WITH CCD DELEGATION VIEW (REFTEL) THAT
JANUARY MEETING OF UN DISARMAMENT COMMISSION (UNDC), TO
BEGIN SUBSTANTIVE DELIBERATION IN UN ON DISARMAMENT
ISSUES, WOULD BE INADVISABLE. WE ALSO CONCUR WITH DEL-
EGATION RECOMMENDATION (PARA 4 REFTEL) THAT US OPPOSE
EMENDATION OF MACHINERY SECTION OF SSOD FINAL DOCUMENT
TO PERMIT COMMITTEE ON DISARMAMENT (CD) TO CONVENE ITS
FIRST MEETING AFTER "JANUARY 1979", AS PROVIDED FOR IN
PARA 120 OF GA RESOLUTION A/RES/S-10/2 DTD JUNE 30 1978.
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2. DELEGATION SHOULD INFORM UN REP IN GENEVA THAT US WILL
OPPOSE ANY ATTEMPTS TO AMEND FINAL DOCUMENT, PARTICULARLY
THE MACHINERY SECTION. WE BELIEVE ANY EFFORTS TO CHANGE
PORTIONS OF WHAT WAS A DELICATELY NEGOTIATED WHOLE WOULD
DESTROY THE DOCUMENTS BALANCE AND FORCE. IN COMMENTING
ON SYG WALDHEIM'S PROPOSED SCHEDULE FOR MEETINGS OF UNDC

AND CD, (PARA 2, REFTEL) DELEGATION MIGHT WISH TO DRAW ON THE FOLLOWING:

A. US DOES NOT BELIEVE PROVIDING ONE WEEK FOR ORGANIZATIONAL MEETING OF CD IN EARLY JANUARY IS ADEQUATE OR APPROPRIATE. SINCE CD WILL ADOPT ITS OWN RULES OF PROCEDURE, IT IS UP TO THE CD ITSELF TO DECIDE WHEN, HOW AND FOR HOW LONG IT WILL DEAL WITH ORGANIZATIONAL MATTERS.

B. THE QUESTION OF CD ADJOURNMENT OR RECESS TO FACILITATE DELEGATION'S PARTICIPATION IN THE UNDC WOULD HAVE TO BE DECIDED BY CONSENSUS AT THE CD. IN OUR VIEW, IT WOULD BE IMPRACTICAL TO HAVE THE CD AGREE TO MEET BRIEFLY IN GENEVA TO TAKE A DECISION TO RECESS IMMEDIATELY FOR DELEGATIONS TO ATTEND A 3-4 WEEK MEETING OF THE UNDC IN NEW YORK AND THEN RETURN TO GENEVA TO RESUME THE CD SESSION.

C. BASED ON OUR DISCUSSIONS WITH OTHER DELEGATIONS ON THE QUESTION OF WHEN TO SCHEDULE THE FIRST SUBSTANTIVE MEETING OF THE UNDC, WE BELIEVE THAT GENERAL PREFERENCE IS EMERGING FOR CONVENING THE UNDC IN MAY OR SEPTEMBER. FURTHERMORE, BEARING IN MIND THAT THE UNDC CAN ONLY MAKE RECOMMENDATIONS AND PROPOSALS THROUGH THE UN GENERAL ASSEMBLY, WHICH WILL NOT BE IN SESSION IN JANUARY, WE DO NOT BELIEVE IT IS NECESSARY TO DELAY THE WORK OF THE CONFIDENTIAL

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CD IN ORDER TO HOLD A MEETING OF THE UNDC IN JANUARY.

3. SYG IS CORRECT IN BELIEVING THAT HE CANNOT "APPOINT" THE SECRETARY PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE TO THE CD UNTIL THE CD HAS BEEN CONSULTED (PARA 3 REFTEL). HOWEVER, DELEGATION MIGHT POINT OUT THAT PARA 120 (C) OF THE SSOD FINAL DOCUMENT DOES NOT PRECLUDE THE SYG FROM ANNOUNCING HIS "RECOMMENDATION" BEFOREHAND. MOREOVER, EARLY ANNOUNCEMENT WOULD FACILITATE THE NECESSARY CONSULTATIONS AMONG THE MEMBERS OF THE CD SO THAT CD APPROVAL OF THE SYG'S PROPOSED SECRETARY/PERSONAL REP, AND HIS/HER SUBSEQUENT APPOINTMENT BY THE SYG, COULD BE ONE OF THE FIRST ORDERS OF BUSINESS OF THE CD. CHRISTOPHER

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: DISARMAMENT, INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS, COMMITTEE MEETINGS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 11 sep 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978STATE229859
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: BLMURRAY
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D780381-0947
Format: TEL
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t19780980/aaaacoij.tel
Line Count: 107
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: cd8ee852-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ORIGIN ACDA
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 78 GENEVA 13410
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 02 aug 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 1482109
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: FIRST SUBSTANTIVE UN DISARMAMENT COMMISSION (UNDC) AND COMMITTEE ON DISARMAMENT (CD) MEETINGS
TAGS: PARM, PORG, CCD, UNGA
To: USUN NEW YORK GENEVA
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/cd8ee852-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Sheryl P. Walter
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
20 Mar 2014
Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014